

Message Text

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NODIS/CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR EG US IS

SUBJECT: NEW EGYPTIAN MAP

REF: CAIRO 6274

1. WHEN MEETING WITH SADAT AT BORG-AL-ARAB YESTERDAY, JUNE 28, WE HAD AN EXCHANGE ABOUT THE PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED EGYPTIAN MAP (REFTEL). SADAT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE EARLIER MAP WAS FOR BARGAINING PURPOSES AND SAID A NEW MAP HAD BEEN PREPARED FOR OUR USE. THIS NEW MAP REPRESENTED HIS "FINAL WORD". HE COULD NOT ACCEPT ANYTHING LESS. HE PROPOSED THAT THE NEW MAP BE PRESENTED AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME AS A US MAP. WE COULD SAY TO THE ISRAELIS THAT THE EGYPTIANS WERE DEMANDING MORE, BUT SUGGEST A US PLAN BASED, HE HOPED, ON HIS NEW MAP AS A FAIR COMPROMISE. HE INSTRUCTED FAHMY TO GIVE ME THE MAP BEFORE I LEFT THE ALEXANDRIA AREA.

2. FAHMY AND I MET AT THE NUZHA AIRPORT IN ALEXANDRIA YESTERDAY AFTERNOON JUST BEFORE I ENPLANED FOR CAIRO. HE HAD WITH HIM A MAJOR GENERAL FAROUQ SALIM, WHO IS APPARENTLY A PRINCIPAL AIDE TO GAMASY AND WHO IT DEVELOPED IS THE DRAWER OF THE TWO EGYPTIAN MAPS. (GAMASY LEFT FOR TEHRAN YESTERDAY.) IN A SPECIAL ROOM,

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FAHMY AND SALIM SHOWED ME THE MAP AND EXPLAINED IT AS FOLLOWS:

A) THE FORWARD EGYPTIAN LINE (LINE A) BEGINS IN THE NORTH APPARENTLY AT THE SAME POINT AS SABKHAT-AL-BARDAWIL ISLAND CHAIN AS IT DID IN THE PREVIOUS MAP, BUT THEN RUNS SOUTHWARD THROUGH THE WESTERN RPT WESTERN ENTRANCES OF THE GIDA AND MITLA PASSES, CURVES AROUND THE PROPOSED EGYPTIAN CIVIL ADMINISTRATION ZONE AND AGAIN EXITS JUST SOUTH OF EL-TOR.

B) THE EGYPTIAN MAIN LINE (LINE B) AGAIN STARTS NEAR BIR AL-ABD AND IS DRAWN SOME 10 TO 15 KILOMETERS TO THE WEST OF A POINT WHERE THE PROPOSED EGYPTIAN CIVIL ADMINISTRATION ZONE BEGINS. AS DRAWN, IT APPEARS TO PASS JUST TO THE EAST JABAL UMM KHUSAIB.

C) THE ISRAELI FORWARD LINE (LINE C) STARTS AS ON PREVIOUS MAP AND PROCEEDS SOUTHWARD SLIGHTLY TO THE EAST OF THE EASTERN ENTRANCES OF THE GIDI AND MITLA PASSES AND PARALLELS THE EGYPTIAN FORWARD LINE UNTIL IT FINALLY EXITS AT RAS GARA ON THE GULF OF SUEZ. SINCE I COULD NOT BE SURE THAT THIS WAS A DRAFTING ERROR, I ASKED FAHMY IF IT WAS INTENDED THAT THE EGYPTIANS WOULD OCCUPY THE WESTERN ENTRANCES OF THE PASSES, BUT THE ISRAELIS WOULD BE EAST OF THE EASTERN ENTRANCES. FAHMY CONFIRMED THIS WAS THE EGYPTIAN POSITION.

D) THE ISRAELI MAIN LINE (LINE D) RUNS PARALLEL TO THEIR FORWARD LINE, BUT SOME 10 TO 15 KILOMETERS FARTHER TO THE EAST.

E) AS BEFORE, A UNEF ZONE SEPARATES THE TWO FORWARD LINES. IN THIS NEW MAP, HOWEVER, THE ENTIRE AREA OF THE TWO PASSES EXCEPT FOR THE WESTERN ENTRANCES ARE IN UNEF HANDS.

F) MONITORING STATIONS ARE SHOWN AT THE EXISTING JABAL UMM KHUSAIB INSTALLATION AND AT JABAL YALAQ AND HAMAM FARAUN. ALL THREE SHOULD BE US MANNED.

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G) AS BEFORE, THERE IS A LARGE AREA MARKED EGYPTIAN CIVIL ADMINISTRATION IN THE SOUTHWEST.

2. FAHMY NOTED EL-TOR IS IN THE EGYPTIAN CIVIL ADMINISTRATION AREA. AS GAMASY HAD DONE WITH THE PREVIOUS MAP, FAHMY INDICATED THIS POINT IS NEGOTIABLE. HE INSISTED, HOWEVER, THAT A CONCEPT OF A NARROW CORRIDOR CONNECTING THE NORTHERN EGYPTIAN

AREAS WITH THE OIL FIELD, AS PROPOSED BY THE ISRAELIS, IS NOT RPT NOT ACCEPTABLE. ALTHOUGH NO COMPANY STRENGTH FORWARD POSTS (SUCH AS THOSE PROPOSED BY THE ISRAELIS ON THEIR MAP) ARE INDICATED, FAHMY SAID GOE WOULD AGREE TO HAVE EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI COMPANY STRENGTH POSTS AT THE WESTERN AND EASTERN ENTRANCES OF THE PASSES RESPECTIVELY. I POINTED OUT NEW EGYPTIAN MAP ALREADY PUTS THEIR FORWARD LINE AT THE WESTERN ENTRANCE. WAS HE THEREFORE SAYING THAT THE ISRAELIS, WHO ON THE NEW EGYPTIAN MAP ARE PLACED EAST OF THE EASTERN ENTRANCES, MIGHT HAVE COMPANY STRENGTH POSTS IN THE EASTERN ENTRANCES? HE HAD APPARENTLY NOT THOUGHT THIS THROUGH, BUT CONFIRMED THIS WAS WHAT HE HAD IN MIND.

3. IN GIVING ME THE MAP FAHMY REITERATED THE PRESIDENT'S EARLIER POINT: HE HOPED USG WILL PRESENT NEW EGYPTIAN MAP AS A US PROPOSAL. I TOLD HIM I WOULD SEND DESCRIPTION TO WASHINGTON AS SOON AS I RETURNED TO CAIRO AND WOULD ALSO FORWARD MAP BY SPECIAL COURIER ASAP.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SADAT INSISTS THIS IS HIS "FINAL"MAP, THERE ARE OBVIOUSLY ELEMENTS OF IT THAT REMAIN NEGOTIABLE, ESPECIALLY IN THE CONTEXT OF WHAT THE PRESIDENT AGREED TO EARLIER AT ASWAN. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE IN CONNECTION WITH THE POSITIONING OF THE RESPECTIVE FORCES AT BOTH ENTRANCES TO THE PASSES. HOWEVER, SADAT SEEMS TO HAVE REJECTED THE ACCESS CORRIDOR IDEA, LARGEMLY I BELIEVE BECAUSE OF GAMASY'S OBJECTIONS, AND WANTS A LARGE BLOC OF TERRITORY IN SOUTHWESTERN SINAI.

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5. I AM SENDING THE MAP WITH MY RSO, BRIAN FLANAGAN, AS SPECIAL COURIER. HE IS BOOKED ON THE TWA FLIGHT LEAVING TOMORROW MORNING, JUNE 30. THIS WILL BRING HIM INTO NEW YORK LATER SAME DAY. WILL SEND BREMER BY SEPTEL DETAILS OF FLANAGAN'S ITINERARY.
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